THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) to (c) Against the target of 1,70,50,000 hectares set for the Ninth Plan for creation of irrigation potential, an irrigation potential of about 1,02,00,000 hectares has been created by the end of the Ninth Plan.

(d) Creation of irrigation potential is a continuous process and target is set for the same from one five-year plan to the next according to allocation of funds to the States. However, time for achieving the target will also depend upon acquisition of land, obtaining clearance by the State Governments from various appraising agencies, implementation of rehabilitation measures for project affected families, pari-passu with the construction, geological conditions in respect of projects undertaken to achieve the target.

Amount spent on irrigation projects

†2424. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of irrigation projects are under construction in the country;

(b) if so, the projects which were under construction till the end of March, 2001;

(c) the total amount spend on their construction;

(d) the assessment of the total amount to be spent on their completion; and

(e) by when the construction of all these projects will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) to (d) 171 major and 259 medium ongoing projects spilled into IX plan. An amount of Rs. 61,013 crores has been spent on the construction of these projects up to the end of March, 2000. An amount of Rs. 62567 crores is likely to be spent for their completion. Besides 13 major and 36 medium projects have been taken up during IX plan, on which an amount of Rs. 2389 crores is likely to be spent up to the end of this plan. The balance cost of these projects will be Rs. 5497 crores.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Water being a State subject, the concerned State Governments are primarily responsible for planning, funding and execution etc. of all types of irrigation projects/schemes including flood control and drainage from their own resources and as per their own priorities.

Erosion of Ganga in North Bengal

2425. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government are considering a proposal to recognize the heavy erosion of the banks of Ganga in North Bengal and to undertake anti-erosion work there;

(b) if so, whether any survey report has been prepared on the project together with its estimated cost; and

(c) by when the work is likely to be initiated?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI) : (a) to (c) Flood Management is a State subject. Planning investigation and execution of flood management works are primarily the responsibilities of the State Governments. Government of India renders assistance in works that are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

The river Ganga is not located in North Bengal. As per available information, no proposal regarding heavy erosion in North Bengal has been received from the Government of West Bengal.

Completion of Narmada Dam Project

2426. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to complete the Narmada Dam Project;

(b) if so, the present status of the project;

(c) whether the voluntary agencies like Narmada Bachao Andolan etc., have been creating problems in the completion of the Dam project; and